

Environmental Water Account

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E-006655



Memorandum

Date: August 4, 1999

To: CALFED Policy Group

From: Lester A. Snow
Executive Director

Subject: Environmental Water Account Development Plan

Summary

In order to better understand the potential advantages and disadvantages of an Environmental Water Account (EWA), CALFED evaluated simulations of how such an account could be operated. Under the guidance of the Quinn/Spear group, DNCT developed several EWA scenarios that might be implemented at the beginning and end of Stage I. These scenarios included a mix of EWA assets, operational rules and financial resources. Computer simulations were run for each of the scenarios, and evaluations were conducted to determine the impact on fisheries, water supply and water quality.

EWA implementation issues were defined and hypotheses to be addressed by the technical groups were developed. The results of these evaluations were presented to the Quinn/Spear group on July 19th. At that meeting, the DNCT was asked to produce a general development report that would lead to an EWA detailed plan by the end of this year. The purpose of this report was to summarize the general conclusions of the EWA simulations and evaluations, issues and possible solutions, and a proposed organizational structure to develop the plan and the schedule. These elements are addressed in the attached report.

Action

Information only.

Attachment

CALFED Agencies

California The Resources Agency
Department of Fish and Game
Department of Water Resources
California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Resources Control Board
Department of Food and Agriculture

Federal Environmental Protection Agency
Department of the Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Geological Survey
Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Western Area Power Administration